

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A text string data structure within a computer usable medium, comprising:
 - 1 a multi-field data object encapsulating a plurality of discrete fields;
 - 2 a first field within the multi-field data object containing a first character string representing a word; and
 - 3 a second field within the multi-field data object containing a second character string representing the word.
2. The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the second character string is different from the first character string.
3. The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the first character string contains characters from a first character set employed by a first human language and the second character string contains characters from a second character set employed by a second human language.
4. The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the first character string contains characters for a first human language and the second character string contains characters for a second human language which sound-map to characters within the first character string.
5. The text string data structure of claim 1, wherein the first character string contains an ideograph and the second character string contains a phonetic spelling of the ideograph.

1 6. The text string data structure of claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 a third field within the multi-field data object
4 containing a third character string representing the word.

1 7. The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein the
2 third character string is different from the second
3 character string.

1 8. The text string data structure of claim 7, wherein the
2 third character string is different from the first character
3 string.

1 9. The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein:
2 the first character string contains characters for a
3 first human language;

4 the second character string contains characters for a
5 second human language which sound-map to characters within
6 the first character string; and

7 the third character string is identical to the first
8 character string.

1 10. The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein:
2 the first character string contains characters for a
3 first human language; and

4 the third character string contains the first character
5 string prefixed by at least one character with a low sort
6 value.

1 11. The text string data structure of claim 6, wherein:
2 the first character string contains an ideograph;

3 the second character string contains Latin characters
4 for a phonetic spelling of the ideograph; and
5 the third character string contains syllabary
6 characters for a phonetic spelling of the ideograph.

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1 12. A method of encapsulating information in a text string
2 data structure, comprising:

3 creating a multi-field data object encapsulating a
4 plurality of discrete fields;

5 storing a first character string representing a word in
6 a first field within the multi-field data object; and

7 storing a second character string representing the word
8 in a second field within the multi-field data object.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of storing a
2 second character string representing the word in a second
3 field within the multi-field data object further comprises:

4 if the first character string contains characters from
5 a first character set employed by a first human language,
6 storing characters from a second character set employed by a
7 second human language in the second field, wherein the
8 second character string is different from the first
9 character string.

1 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

2 storing a third character string representing the word
3 in a third field within the multi-field data object.

1 15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

2 storing characters from a first human language as the
3 first character string;

4 storing characters from a second human language which
5 sound-map to characters within the first character string as
6 the second character string; and

7 storing characters identical to the first character
8 string as the third character string.

1 16. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
2 storing the first character string prefixed by at least
3 one character with a low sort value as the third character
4 string.

1 17. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
2 storing an ideograph as the first character string;
3 storing a latin character phonetic spelling of the
4 ideograph as the second character string; and
5 storing syllabary characters for a phonetic spelling of
6 the ideograph as the third character string.

1 18. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
2 storing identical characters as the first, second, and
3 third character strings.

1 19. A system for encapsulating information in a text string
2 data structure, comprising:
3 means for creating a multi-field data object
4 encapsulating a plurality of discrete fields;
5 means for storing a first character string representing
6 a word in a first field within the multi-field data object;
7 and
8 means for storing a second character string
9 representing the word in a second field within the multi-
10 field data object.

1 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the means for storing a
2 second character string representing the word in a second
3 field within the multi-field data object further comprises:
4 means, if the first character string contains
5 characters from a first character set employed by a first
6 human language, for storing characters from a second
7 character set employed by a second human language in the
8 second field, wherein the second character string is
9 different from the first character string.

1 21. The system of claim 19, further comprising:
2 means for storing a third character string representing
3 the word in a third field within the multi-field data
4 object.

1 22. The system of claim 21, further comprising:
2 means for storing characters from a first human
3 language as the first character string;
4 means for storing characters from a second human
5 language which sound-map to characters within the first
6 character string as the second character string; and

7 means for storing characters identical to the first
8 character string as the third character string.

1 23. The system of claim 21, further comprising:
2 means for storing the first character string prefixed
3 by at least one character with a low sort value as the third
4 character string.

1 24. The system of claim 21, further comprising:
2 means for storing an ideograph as the first character
3 string;
4 means for storing a latin character phonetic spelling
 of the ideograph as the second character string; and
 means for storing syllabary characters for a phonetic
 spelling of the ideograph as the third character string.

1 25. The system of claim 21, further comprising:
2 means for storing identical characters as the first,
3 second, and third character strings.